

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. COBURN
TO THE MEDICARE RECONCILIATION PROVISIONS

(Page & line nos. refer to Committee Print of 6/11/97,
COMSUB.RPT)

Add at the appropriate place the following:

1 SEC. ____ HOME HEALTH AGENCY DISCHARGE PLANNING.

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
3 sion of law, each health care provider shall, as part of the
4 discharge planning process, ensure that patients needing
5 referral to home health services under the medicare pro-
6 gram are afforded a choice of home agencies.

7 (b) LIST.—Each such provider shall provide the pa-
8 tient with a list of the medicare certified home health
9 agencies serving the area in which the patient resides.

10 (c) HONORING PREFERENCES.—Each such provider
11 shall honor any preference expressed by the patient (or
12 the patient's physician) with respect to the selection of a
13 home health agency.

14 (d) NO RESTRICTIONS.—Each such provider shall
15 not restrict a patient's or physician's preference of home
16 health agency.

17 (e) DISCLOSURE OF OWNERSHIP INTEREST.—Any
18 provider with an ownership or financial interest in a home
19 health agency shall disclose to the patient, before referring
20 the patient to the agency, the facts of such relationship.